

Remarks

Claims 1, 9, 17, and 25 have been amended. Claims 10 and 26 were previously cancelled. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-12, 14-19, 21-25, 27-28, and 30-32 are pending in this application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 6-12, 15-17, 19, 22-28, 31, and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,774,647 to Raynham et al. (hereinafter, "Raynham") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,588,112 to Dearth et al. (hereinafter, "Dearth") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,125,392 to Labatte et al. (hereinafter, "Labatte"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,601,183 to Larson et al. (hereinafter, "Larson"). Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections.

A. Remarks Regarding Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-12, 14-19, 21-25, 27-28, and 30-32 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." In re Wilson, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970). If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious. In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

The combination of Raynham, Dearth, Labatte, and Larson fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations of amended independent claims 1, 9, 17, and 25. Specifically, the combination fails to teach or suggest that the "central processing unit has an assigned exception vector." Examiner states that Larson discloses this limitation. (Office Action at pg. 3). However, Larson does not disclose an "assigned exception vector" as required by the independent claims. Larson discusses a processor looking for an entry point on an exception

vector but does not discuss that the exception vector is assigned to the particular processor. (Larson, 2:61-3:2; Fig. 1).

Further, the combination of Raynham, Dearth, Labatte, and Larson fails to teach or suggest that the assigned exception vector is associated with a BIOS routine for creating and storing a log as required by amended independent claims 1, 9, 17, and 25.

A prima facie case of obviousness has not been established because the combination of Raynham, Dearth, and Labatte does not teach or suggest all of the claimed elements of independent claims 1, 9, 17, and 25. Thus, the rejection of claims 1, 9, 17, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be withdrawn.

B. Remarks Regarding Rejection of Dependent Claims 2, 3, 5-8, 11-12, 14-16, 18, 19, 21-24, 27-28 and 30-32 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The rejection of dependent claims 2, 3, 5-8, 11-12, 14-16, 18, 19, 21-24, 27-28 and 30-32 will not be discussed individually herein, as each of these claims depends, either directly or indirectly, from an otherwise allowable base claim.

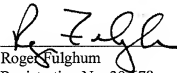
C. No Waiver

All of Applicant's arguments are without prejudice or disclaimer. By not responding to additional statements made by the Examiner, Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's additional statements, such as, for example, any statements relating to what would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art. The current amendments to the claims are sufficient to overcome the novelty and obviousness rejections.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-12, 14-19, 21-25, 27-28, and 30-32 of the present invention, as amended, are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of the pending claims be withdrawn and that these claims be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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